

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, the Specification and claims 1, 12 and 22-24 have been amended. Claim 5 has been cancelled. New claim 25 has been added. Claims 1, 3, 10-12, 14-16 and 22-25 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 1, 5, 10-12, 14-16 and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kazo (U.S. Patent 6,301,427) in view of Tanaka (U.S. Patent 4,982,390).

Using independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites "a first storage unit ... a second storage unit storing an indicated video image data in said stored received broadcast image data of said first storage unit; indicating means comprising a time designation unit for indicating said video image data to be played back and operated by a user ... a storage table ... to store a write time and a write address of the broadcast video image data in the first storage unit ... wherein said control unit stores the write address and the write time of said first storage unit into said storage table whenever a predetermined amount of said received broadcast video image data is stored in said first storage unit, searches a write address of said indicated video image data from said storage table according to an indicated time of said indicating means as indicated by the user."

Thus, the user indicates the video image data to be played back. As discussed below, Kazo does not rely upon the user for this feature.

Kazo discloses a VTR recording/reproducing system having a changer unit 22, a memory 14 for storing still picture data of each VTR, a memory 13 for storing recording hysteresis information such as VTR tape number, recorded start time, recorded end time and title of each VTR and a CPU 11 for recording base-band picture signals into VTR. Kazo, Column 5 line 30 to Column 6, line 49. The tapes in the changer unit 22 receive broadcast information via RFIN 31. Kazo, FIG. 1. Portions of the information from the changer unit 22 are stored in still picture form in the memory 14 according to an interval set by a user using the interfacing circuit 16. Kazo, Column 6, line 64 to Column 7, line 34. The user views the still picture data in the memory 14 and selects the desired recorded program from among numerous recorded programs in the VTR.

That is, Kazo discloses a VTR recording/reproducing system for recording an outer base-band picture signal in VTR, and having a memory 14 storing recorded still pictures and a

memory 13 storing management information. In order to select a desired recorded program in VTR, the user views the still picture in memory 14 and selects the recorded program from the still picture, thereby desired programs are reproduced from the VTR corresponding to the still picture using management information in memory 13.

The Examiner states that the claimed first storage unit, second storage unit and storage table respectively correspond to the changer unit 22, memory 14 and memory 13 of Kazo. However, the information stored in the memory 14 is not indicated by the user, as claimed. Instead, the user indicates which information is stored in the changer unit 22, and the still picture information is automatically stored in the memory 14. Kazo, Column 6, lines 64-68. That is, the memory 14 stores only still pictures in received picture signals and memory 13 stores recorded hysteresis of VTR.

Furthermore, the Examiner states that the CPU 11 and remote controller 50 in Kazo correspond to the claimed time designation unit. The Examiner relies upon Kazo, col. 6, lines 24-30, which disclose that the time information relates to recording at the changer unit 22 (the broadcast level). However, the claimed indicating means including the time designation unit relates to recording in the second storage unit 3 (one step removed from the broadcast level).

The above distinctions between Kazo and the invention of claim 1 have the following effect. The present invention realizes the result of recording video images that have been broadcast in the past. This is achieved by storing broadcast video images in the first storage unit at all times, and storing images in the second storage unit at a time indicated for recording.

In contrast, the purpose of Kazo differs from that of the present invention, and thus this reference does not achieve the above advantage of the invention of claim 1. Specifically, Kazo is directed to identifying already recorded contents. Kazo, col. 3, ln. 54-60. Thus, Kazo attempts to overcome deficiencies of the prior art described therein, which includes recording contents on a label placed on a tape and using VTR counter information. Kazo, col. 1, ln. 18-25. However, this reference does not achieve the present advantage of recording video images that have been broadcast in the past.

Tanaka does not overcome these deficiencies in Kazo, and is not relied upon to do so.

Independent claims 12, 22-24 are similarly allowable.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kazo in view of Tanaka and further in view of Browne et al. (WO 92/22983).

The comments above also apply here. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.


Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: 
Michael J. Badagliacca
Registration No. 39,099

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501